

## **Pendleton Correctional Facility Receives ACA Accreditation**

**Pendleton, Indiana (April 14, 2009)** – Pendleton Correctional Facility was recommended for re-accreditation last week by an audit committee representing the American Correctional Association (ACA) following a three day audit process at the facility.

The facility received initial accreditation status in 2006. In order to pass the ACA audit, the facility was required to comply with 100% of 54 mandatory standards and 90% of 440 non-mandatory standards established by ACA. ACA standards represent the current best correctional practices associated with the care, custody, and management of offenders. The facility scored 100% on the mandatory standards and 98.4% on the non-mandatory standards.

During a closing ceremony conducted Thursday, April 9 in the Facility Chapel, ACA Audit Committee Chairperson Ken Burger from Marion, Iowa stated that he was very impressed with what was occurring at the facility and that PCF was providing more offender programming than he had seen at other maximum security facilities. Audit Committee member Joan Garber from Galloway, Ohio described the quality of life at the facility as “marvelous” and commented on the “family atmosphere” at the facility that she experienced during the audit process. Audit Committee member Tim Schuetzle from Bismarck, North Dakota was also extremely complimentary relative to the operation of the facility and praised the positive staff/offender interaction he witnessed as he inspected the facility.

Executive Director of Adult Facilities, Stan Knight attended the ceremony on behalf of IDOC Commissioner Edwin G. Buss. Mr. Knight congratulated everyone at the facility for this outstanding accomplishment and expressed “that accreditation represented the prime example of teamwork in corrections.”

“I can’t begin to express how proud I am of the staff and offenders at this facility that have worked so diligently to bring our goals and objectives to fruition,” stated PCF Superintendent Brett Mize. “The standards of excellence that have been achieved could not have been possible without their tireless efforts, dedication, cooperation, and commitment to our mission,” added Superintendent Mize.

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